

Independent Sessions

This 'course of study' is a collection of miscellaneous sessions that might be relevant to you, and events you won't want to miss!

First-Time Attendee Session
14AC: Sun 12:30 - 1:15, Delta Ballroom B, Opryland Hotel
ID:402239

Level:
All

Course:
Independent Sessions

Speaker:
Trevor Perry
KMR Systems Corporation

Attending your first COMMON conference? It can be both an exciting and overwhelming experience. To help you to make the most of your conference experience, COMMON hosts a First-Timer's session to provide a brief, informative, and (hopefully) fun overview of the conference. Join us and we'll introduce you to the many services and opportunities you may not realize are available to you as a COMMON conference attendee.

Expo 1:00 pm - 03:15pm Refreshments
14AA: Sun 1 - 3:15, Ryman Exhibit Hall C2, Opryland Hotel
ID:402747

Level:
All

Course:
Independent Sessions

Speaker:
All Attendees

Visit the COMMON Expo to view first-hand, demonstrations of the latest midrange hardware, software and services found in the IT industry. COMMON Expo is your source for the tools your organization needs to succeed.

First-Time Attendee Social
14AC: Sun 1:15 - 2:15, Delta Ballroom B, Opryland Hotel
ID:402511

Level:
All

Course:
Independent Sessions

Speaker:
Trevor Perry
KMR Systems Corporation

Here's another great networking opportunity for first-timers! Learn more about COMMON while meeting other first-time attendees, as well as long time members and volunteers. Bring your questions to this event to get more information about the conference and discover how to successfully navigate the week. For first-time attendees, this is an event you shouldn't miss!

COMMON Opening Session: 3:30 - 5:30pm
16AB: Sun 3:30 - 5:30, Delta Ballroom A, Opryland Hotel
ID:402360

Level:
All

Course:
Independent Sessions

Speakers:
All Attendees

Randy Dufault
MBS Technologies, Inc.
Anne C. Lucas
Genisys Group Inc

The 2008 Annual Meeting and Exposition officially kicks off with a combined informational session hosted by COMMON and IBM starting at 3:30 p.m. COMMON President Randy Dufault will welcome attendees and cover important highlights for the week ahead. During COMMON's Award program, the Speaker Excellence Award winners from the Annual 2007 Meeting in Anaheim will be announced and new this year, IBM will present the 2008 i5/OS Innovation Awards. Also, as part of the Opening Session in Nashville, we will have Dr. Jurij R. Paraszczak, IBM Research Director Industry Solutions as our keynote speaker. His presentation will speak to how the underlying technology which supports IT has led to ever increasing sophistication of IT's capabilities and where it may migrate to innovate in the future.

Expo Welcome Reception (5:30 - 8:00 pm)
17AA: Sun 5:30 - 8, Ryman Exhibit Hall C2, Opryland Hotel
ID:403106

Level:
All

Course:
Independent Sessions

Speaker:
All Attendees

Instead of staying up 24 hours a day to fit everything in, you can combine some of your activities at COMMON. Attend the Welcome Reception during COMMON Expo on Sunday from 5:30 to 8:00 pm and contact those vendors you need to see while you are at the conference. You can take the edge off your hunger with complimentary hors d'oeuvres and beverages. And you can greet old friends or meet new ones who are also at the reception, making the most of their time at COMMON. It's the perfect combination of value and fun!

iSocial - Ask the Experts Night

(8:00-10:00pm)

19AC: Sun 8 - 10, Delta Ballroom B, Opryland Hotel

ID:402763

Course:
Independent
Sessions

Speaker:

iSocial - Ask the Experts returns you to the original concept of a "user discussion" between known experts and their peers. It is designed to expand upon the educational information offered at the COMMON Conference, and give attendees more one-on-one education outside of scheduled sessions. COMMON brings together over 40 speakers that are recognized experts in their area, in a casual fun atmosphere, for you to relax, mingle and pick some brains! Topics represented at Ask The Experts will be published in the onsite newspaper, COMMON Conference Daily.

New at this Ask the Experts is a forum for "expert tips." Any member may submit a tip and prizes will be awarded to the top ten. Submit your tip on the "Expert_Tips" discussion forum at <http://isociety.common.org>.

Get your i CaN Card stamped at this event for an opportunity to win prizes at the i CaN Have Fun! raffle during iSocial: Recognition Night. Rules are provided in the i CaN Have Fun! packet distributed at registration.

Expo (11:30AM to 2:00PM) Monday

23AA: Mon 11:30 - 2, Ryman Exhibit Hall C2, Opryland Hotel

ID:402742

Level:
All

Course:
Independent
Sessions

Speaker:
All Attendees

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IBM Q&A

26AD: Mon 3:30 - 4:45, Delta Ballroom C, Opryland Hotel

ID:540200

Level:
All

Course:
IBM Forum

Speakers:
All Attendees

Ian Jarman
IBM Corporation

This is IBM's question and answer session, taking place separate of Opening Session.

iSocial - All Attendee Reception in Expo (5:00-7:00pm)

27AA: Mon 5 - 7, Ryman Exhibit Hall C2, Opryland Hotel

ID:470157

Level:
All

Course:
Independent
Sessions

Speaker:

Make sure to attend the iSocial - All Attendee Reception in the Expo from 5:00pm - 7:00pm. Visit with exhibitors while you enjoy complimentary hors d'oeuvres and beverages. This is the perfect time to network with friends old and new - an Expo event not to be missed!

Get your i CaN Card stamped at this event for an opportunity win prizes at the i CaN Have Fun! raffle during iSocial: Recognition Night. Rules are provided in the i CaN Have Fun! packet distributed at registration.

IBM Certification Testing

31DF: Tue 8:30 - 5, Delta Island F - IBM CERT, Opryland Hotel

ID:440226

Level:
Advanced

Course:
Independent
Sessions

Speaker:
Certification
Team

Have you considered getting professionally certified, but didn't have the time or the funds to pursue it? At COMMON, the IBM certification program is coming to you!

A selection of certification exams are available to you on-site at a discounted COMMON Conference rate. Don't miss this opportunity to enhance your own professional credentials and give your organization a competitive edge. An assessment and testing room is available for you to take the exams whenever you feel ready. To see what exams are active for all platforms, go to <http://www-03.ibm.com/certify/>.

Exam fees are \$95. Register onsite in the IBM Certification room.

Expo (11:30AM to 2:00PM) Tuesday

33AA: Tue 11:30 - 2, Ryman Exhibit Hall C2, Opryland Hotel

ID:450132

Level:
All

Course:
Independent Sessions

Speaker:
All Attendees

Visit the COMMON Expo to view first-hand demonstrations of the latest midrange hardware, software and services found in the IT industry. COMMON Expo is your source for the tools your organization needs to succeed. Lunch will be served in the Expo from 12:30 pm - 1:30 pm. Passport to Prizes will be held in the Expo from 1:30pm - 2:00pm.

iSocial - Fun & Games (7:45-10:00pm)

38AB: Tue 7:45 - 10, Delta Ballroom A, Opryland Hotel

ID:403191

Level:
All

Course:
Independent Sessions

Speaker:
All Attendees

Tuesday's iSocial is always a fun-filled night. With a mix of the older classics and some new, we will have a variety of games for all to play Tuesday evening. Games are great ice breakers and iSocials are all about bringing folks together, networking and, most importantly, having FUN. A sure fire way to learn more about your friends or bond with some new ones, is to collaborate and compete with them in a friendly game of the likes of Uno, Trivial Pursuit, Charades, Balderdash or poker! Feel free to bring your own favorite game to play as well! We'll have light refreshments and music to round out the evening.

Get your i CaN Card stamped at this event for an opportunity win prizes at the i CaN Have Fun! raffle during iSocial: Recognition Night. Rules are provided in the i CaN Have Fun! packet distributed at registration.

IBM Certification Testing

43DF: Wed 11 - 6, Delta Island F - IBM CERT, Opryland Hotel

ID:404605

Level:
Advanced

Course:
Independent Sessions

Speaker:
Certification Team

Have you considered getting professionally certified, but didn't have the time or the funds to pursue it? At COMMON, the IBM certification program is coming to you!

A selection of certification exams are available to you on-site at a discounted COMMON Conference rate. Don't miss this opportunity to enhance your own professional credentials and give your organization a competitive edge. An assessment and testing room is available for you to take the exams whenever you feel ready. To see what exams are active for all platforms, go to <http://www-03.ibm.com/certify/>.

Exam fees are \$95. Register onsite in the IBM Certification room.

Meeting of the Members (MOM)

48AC: Wed 6:30 - 7:45, Delta Ballroom B, Opryland Hotel

ID:406199

Level:
Beginner

Course:
Independent Sessions

Speakers:
Randy Dufault
MBS Technologies,
Inc.
All Attendees

All COMMON members should attend! To keep you better informed and to more effectively solicit your questions and suggestions on strengthening COMMON, please attend Meeting of the Members. Both the Member Business Update and Member Feedback Opportunity are on the agenda for this meeting.

Get your i CaN Card stamped at this meeting (in the first 15 minutes) for an opportunity win prizes at the i CaN Have Fun! raffle during iSocial: Recognition Night. Rules are provided in the i CaN Have Fun! packet distributed at registration.

IBM Town Hall Meeting

42AB: Wed 9:30 - 10:45, Delta Ballroom A, Opryland Hotel

ID:250072

Level:
All

Course:
IBM Forum

Speaker:
All Attendees

At the COMMON Annual Meeting and Exposition in Nashville, IBM will make a special announcement of an important initiative "The New Power Equation." Please join Mark Shearer, Vice President, Marketing and Offerings, Business Systems Division, and Ross A Mauri, General Manager of IBM Power Systems, at a special Town Hall Meeting on the morning of Wednesday, April 2nd at 9:30am. On the agenda is news you will want to hear and an opportunity to dialogue with IBM executives. Don't miss this important session.

iSociety Face to Face: YiPs

Requirement Session

48CD: Wed 7 - 8:15, Canal D, Opryland Hotel

ID:540238

Level:
Advanced

Course:
Independent Sessions

Speakers:
Steve Will
IBM Corporation
Justin Porter
Westside Produce

I'd like to host a "Face to Face" for the YiPS council as a roundtable discussion with Steve Will, i5/OS Chief Software Architect, to further discuss technical requirements on behalf of the Young 'i' Professionals.

iSocial - Recognition Night:

(7:45-10pm)

48AC: Wed 7:45 - 10, Delta Ballroom B, Opryland Hotel

ID:409220

Level:
Beginner

Course:
Independent Sessions

Speaker:
All Attendees

On Wednesday, show your appreciation and thank the many volunteers who help keep COMMON moving ahead. It is also another great opportunity to converse with other i5/OS professionals and share ideas and experiences. Other recognition will take place as well...

Don't miss the i CaN Have Fun! raffle during iSocial: Recognition Night. It's your chance to win a cool prize. Rules are provided in the i CaN Have Fun! packet distributed at registration.

If you want to play the BONK game on Thursday night, be sure to check the "I want to play" box in your i CaN card.

IBM Certification Testing

51DF: Thu 8:30 - 12, Delta Island F - IBM CERT, Opryland Hotel

ID:440203

Level:
Advanced

Course:
Independent Sessions

Speaker:
Certification Team

Have you considered getting professionally certified, but didn't have the time or the funds to pursue it? At COMMON, the IBM certification program is coming to you!

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Exam fees are \$95. Register onsite in the IBM Certification room.

iSocial - Main Event: (5:30-8:30 pm)

57AD: Thu 5:30 - 8:30, Delta Ballroom C, Opryland Hotel

ID:470155

Level:
All

Course:
Independent Sessions

Speaker:

Food and laughter - the best medicine! On Thursday night, during COMMON's iSocial - Main Event, COMMON literally is going "BONK"ers! Join in to watch or play BONK - a unique Comedy Game Show that will have you having more fun the boss would condone (we won't tell)!

Designed by professional comedians and hosted by top comedy entertainers, BONK is a visually stimulating, fast-paced, innovative game show that combines the fun of a live action TV game show, a general knowledge test, and some plain silliness. It promises to be an entertaining night filled with good food and fun and a final chance to network with your COMMON friends. After days of intense sessions, BONK will be just the tension reliever you'll need to end the week. Plan to stay for the evening and enjoy! To learn more about this fun night, go to: <http://www.common.org/conferences/2008/annual/mainevent.html>